

**BILL NO. BL2019-1518** (O'CONNELL) – This ordinance, as substituted, would make various amendments to Chapter 6.81 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws regarding Booting Services.

This ordinance would add a definition for “residential parking areas,” a phrase used twice in this Chapter, but currently undefined.

The regulations for obtaining a booting permit would be amended in several ways. There is currently a requirement that all employees of booting services obtain a permit from the Metropolitan Transportation Licensing Commission (MTLC). Under the current provision, applicants must be at least twenty-one years of age. This ordinance would lower the age to eighteen. The current provision allows employee permits to remain valid for two (2) years at a fee of \$150. The proposed ordinance would reduce the duration of permits to one (1) year, but at a fee of only \$50. In each instance, a fee of \$40 for a background check would still apply. This ordinance would also require all persons engaged in the act of booting to wear a uniform containing the name and/or logo of the booting company on either the left or right chest of the employee's shirt or jacket.

Booting services would be required to maintain a phone number staffed by a live operator 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. Additionally, if the immobilization device (sometimes called a “boot”) were to damage a vehicle, the service would be liable for the cost of repairs. Further, a booting service would be required to have a valid written contract with the owner of the property, the lessee, managing agent, or other person in control of the property on which the service engages in booting.

The maximum fee for boot removal would be increased from \$50 to \$75.

New requirements for booting services would be added. A service would be required to remove a boot within 15 minutes after full payment is received. A service would also be required to obtain a license in order to operate. (This is already implied in Chapter 6.81, but this amendment would make it an explicit requirement).

Existing signage requirements would further be required to be inspected for compliance by the MTLC.

Finally, the MTLC Director would be authorized to suspend, revoke, restrict, or refuse to renew licenses or permits for failure or refusal to comply with Chapter 6.81.

An amendment has previously been submitted which would require (1) arrival within the lesser of one hour of contact or within 10 minutes of the posted estimated arrival time to remove booting devices following payment; (2) inclusion of call center information and other such third parties within the required posting of contact information; and (3) the posting of such additional contact information on required signage.

*Fiscal Note: Section 3 of the proposed changes to the MCL concerning booting services would change the permit fees for booting companies. Presently, these companies pay \$150 for a two-year permit. The new fee would be \$50 for a one-year permit. Since there are presently only three permitted booting companies operating in Nashville, the net change of \$50 per permit per two years would have no significant impact on the revenue of the TLC.*